ENTERTAINMENT / F1

Maxene wants to make her papa proud

NEWS / A4

Bb. Pilipinas winners crowned



LEARNING / G1

Slumdog millionaire she's not, but a winner just the same

BUSINESS / B3-1

Ayala in business for 175 years and still counting

Asian fisherwomen dare to speak out

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

FISHERWOMEN?

Yes there are such women. And they have voices to denounce the state of the fishing industry, particularly the unregulated fishing practices that have marginalized the small fisherfolk and caused their sources of livelihood to perish.

ASIAN A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Monday, March 9, 2009 ★ 12 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 91 P18 website: www.inquirer.net

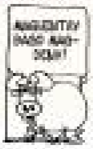
Palace on Mancao case: No overreaction, please

By C. V. Esguerra and C. O. Avendaño

MAYBE IT'S BEST NOT TO protest too much.

Malacañang yesterday cautioned people against reacting prematurely to the affidavit of former Se-

PALACE A22





WOMEN'S MARCH Thousands of women assail the RP-US Visiting Forces Agreement in a march along España Avenue in Manila to mark International Women's Day.

₱487M siphoned off Legacy bank

BSP: De los Angeles, execs misused funds

LEGACY GROUP FOUNDER CELSO DE LOS ANGELES JR. conspired with some of his employees in siphoning off P487 million in deposits from First Interstate Bank (FIB) in Leyte, one of Legacy's 13 shuttered banks, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

The BSP filed with the Department of Justice on Friday its second case of syndicated estafa against De los Angeles and officials of the Legacy Group and FIB in connection with the misappropriation of the funds.

Records show that deposits worth more than P487 million were placed in FIB, but only P1 million was left by the time of its closure in December last year, the BSP said.

"Based on sworn testimonies of persons and bank officers of FIB, it is clear that respondents, in conspiracy with one another and pursuant to the objectives of the syndicate they have formed, committed the crime of syndicated estafa," the BSP said in a statement released yesterday.

Syndicated estafa is a nonbailable offense.

Besides De los Angeles, those charged with syndicated estafa were Alexis Petralba, Nenuvanie Puentes, Carolina Hiñola, Roy Hilario, Virgilio Odejar, Christine Antonet Cruz-Limpin, Norman Thompson, Victoria Noel, Arnel Sulapinen, Ronaldo Alix, Mike Bienaguas, John Does, and Jane Does.

The BSP said it was easy for FIB and other banks owned by the Legacy Group to entice depositors because of the high interest rates they offered.

For this reason, the central bank reiterated its warning to the public

P487M SIPHONED A22



CHARMING CHARICE Pilipina singing sensation Charice Pempengco wows the crowd during Saturday's free concert at Shangri-La Plaza in Mandaluyong City.

Women marchers call for jobs, equality

By Jerome Aning and Jeannette I. Andrade

ARMED WITH POTS AND PANS, women workers yesterday braved the summer heat and trooped to the streets in major cities to mark International Women's Day, calling for full employment for women, gender equality amid the global economic crisis, and the junking of the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA).

Members of the Alliance of Progressive Labor (APL) and the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) marched on Chino Roces (formerly Mendiola) Bridge near Malacañang to demand that government help working wives and mothers laid off due to the financial crisis.

APL chapters also held demonstrations in Cebu, Davao, General Santos and Cotabato cities.

Some 10,000 members of Gabriela, carrying purple, white and red banners, converged on Mendiola, called for the junking of the VFA, and aired concerns on the violation of women's

WOMEN A4

HIGH-STAKES POLITICAL STRATEGY

Think tank cites risk of martial law return

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE CHANCES OF CHARTER change (Cha-cha) preempting the 2010 presidential election are slim, but there are risks of another "less peaceful route," such as a temptation to return to martial law, US-based think tank Global Source warns.

Assuming that the 2010 Philippine presidential election will push through, any candidate from a unified opposition will likely get an overwhelming victory, Global Source predicted in a March 5 report titled "Down to the Wire."

"With much at stake for those hoping to stay in power, aggressive action up until the time when Cha-cha becomes impossible to pull off, or right up to the scheduled 2010 elections, cannot be discounted," it said.

"Clearly this is a high-stakes strategy with attendant political risks," said the report, written by Filipino economists Romeo Bernardo and Marigrace Gonzales.

Global Source noted in its report that at least one highly placed military official and a few former military men were

THINK TANK A20

Court orders arrest of Marcos pal Panlilio, son

By Fe Zamora

A MANILA COURT HAS ORdered the arrest of Marcos crony Erlinda Panlilio, her son Jose Marcel, and three others for syndicated estafa over the alleged unauthorized sale of the historic American colonial-era Luneta Hotel in May 2007.

Judge Amor A. Reyes of the Regional Trial Court Branch 12 denied bail for all the accused, who have also been placed under a hold-departure order by the Bureau of Immigration.

The warrants of arrest for the Panlilios and coaccused Mario Cristobal, Nicole Morris, and Herminio Valerio was issued on Feb. 4. They were placed in the hold-departure list effective Feb. 20.

The case of the illegal sale of the Luneta Hotel, an 88-year-old structure inspired by French Renaissance architecture, is the latest twist in a seemingly end-

COURT ORDERS A22

HURTING PA New People's Army leader Leoncio Pitao, alias Commander Parago, believes that military agents were behind the abduction and killing of her 20-year-old daughter Rebelyn on March 5. Pitao appeared in a rare interview with journalists three days after the killing. (Story in Across the Nation, Page A13.)



Diaspora in reverse seen in third wave of recession

By Amando Doronila

ANALYSIS

IN A NEW REPORT, DOMINIQUE Strauss-Kahn, head of the International Monetary Fund, has warned that the world's poorest countries are beginning to be hit by the global financial crisis.

If "global growth and financing conditions deteriorate further," the report said, "the number of vulnerable countries could almost double." It describes this as the third wave of the recession.

"After hitting first the advanced economies and then the emerging economies (the category to which the Philippines belongs), a third wave from the global financial crisis is now hitting the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries," Strauss-Kahn said.

"This puts at risk the major achievements of higher growth, lower poverty and greater political stability that many low-income countries have made over the past decade."

Poor countries fared greater exposure to the crisis because they were more integrated into

DIASPORA A23

US recovery won't come anytime soon, say experts

NEW YORK—WHEN WILL THE wrenched US economy bottom out? The recession is already in its 15th month, making it longer than all but two downturns since World War II.

For now, everything seems to be getting worse in the world's largest economy. Stocks are in free fall, jobs are vanishing every day and one in eight American homeowners is in foreclosure or behind on payments.

But the US economy always recovers. It runs in cycles and economists are watching an array of statistics, some of them buried deep beneath the headlines, to spot the turning point.

The Associated Press examined three markets—housing, jobs and stocks—and asked experts where things stand and how to know when they have hit bottom.

None of these experts the economic turnaround to come anytime soon.

The US unemployment rate hit 8.1 percent in February, a 25-year peak. The US economy has lost 4.4 million jobs since the recession began in late 2007.

The job cuts began early last year, as the housing and construction industries slowed down. The collapse of the financial industry in the fall battered white-collar workers. Soon, layoffs spread across industries and income levels.

The darkest days for the job

US RECOVERY A23

Second FRONT PAGE

SUPERLOTTO 6/49

10 22 25 36 41 42

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Misuari can't get foot in Abu door

Third try at negotiations with abductors of Red Cross workers fails

ZAMBOANGA CITY—MORO NATIONAL LIBERation Front (MNLF) leader Nur Misuari has again failed to meet with the Abu Sayyaf to negotiate release of three International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) workers.



Acquitted officer on mission to find Ninoy murder 'brains'





Baselines law soon

Jobs mismatch is the problem—Palace

By Christian V. Esguerra









BEDAZZLING: From left are 2nd Runner-up Regina Hahn, Bb. Pilipinas-International Melody Gersbach, Bb. Pilipinas-Universe Pamela Bianca Manalo, Bb. Pilipinas-World Marie-Ann Umali, and 1st Runner-up Rochell Angeles.

It's all in the family for Bb. Pilipinas-U

By Armin Adina

THIS YEAR'S BINIBINING PILIPINAS crown went to a 22-year-old flight attendant who belongs to a family of beauty titlists.

Pamela Bianca Manalo, proclaimed Binibining Pilipinas-Universe in coronation ceremonies at Araneta Coliseum in Quezon City on Saturday, was cheered on by her sister, Miss World finalist Katherine Anne Manalo, and aunt, Miss Karen [illegible], the first woman to be crowned Binibining Pilipinas-[illegible].

"The pressure is continuing the family tradition," Manalo told the Inquirer after her coronation. "Now we have all three titles—Universe, World and International."

Manalo, who will represent the country in the Miss Universe pageant later this year in the Bahamas, also took home the lion's share of special awards—Miss Natasha, Miss Philippine Airlines, Reader's Choice, and the highly coveted Best in Swimsuit award.

A highlight of the evening was when Manalo was asked by host Richard Gomez during the interview round what she would teach her future [illegible] about women.

She replied: "He should respect her like he respects his mother because all women can be mothers. If you know how to respect her, you know how to respect yourself as well."

The 5-foot-10 Advertising graduate of Assumption College received a resounding ovation.

Other winners were Binibining Pilipinas-World Marie-Ann Umali and Binibining Pilipinas-International Melody Gersbach.

Umali, who also snagged the Miss Photogenic and Best in Evening Gown trophies, was a semifinalist in the pageant's 2006 edition. She will make a bid to become the country's first Miss World titleholder in South Africa also later this year.

Gersbach, the reigning Miss [illegible], will carry the country's colors in the Miss International pageant which will be held in Macau, China, and in Tokyo, Japan.

Binibining Pilipinas First Runner-up was Rochell Angeles, a television personality more popularly known as Rich Asuncion. She was also proclaimed Miss [illegible] Beauty and [illegible] Shopper's Choice.

Regina Hahn, who also comes from a line of beauty queens, was Second Runner-up. Her mother, Chiqui Brosas-Hahn, was 1975 Miss Universe fourth runner-up.

Contestant Giselle [illegible] was named Miss Friendship by her fellow candidates.

Paolo Bediones and actress Iza Calzado also hosted the event together with Miss World semifinalist Carlene Aguilar as anchorperson.

Twenty-three women participated in the pageant that lasted five hours, ending early Sunday morning.

One candidate, however, No. 13, was missing.

Natalie Ann [illegible] was disqualified two days before the coronation night for having posed for the men's magazine FHM.

Don't split Pinoy family, Amnesty Int'l asks Japan

Dream for the future

Fake passports


4th Triennial Awards
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Scrap VFA

Faces of Cordillera

Traditional seeds

GMA assures bishops she's for CARP extension

PDEA to run after cops posing as agents

Atienza to bring up beaching of whales





Cleared of graft charges

THE SANDIGANBAYAN has cleared a former member of the Board of Optometry of charges he took advantage of his position to take and pass a special exam in 2000.

Dr. Antonio Jesus Jr. was accused of graft for taking the first special ocular pharmacology exam while a member of the profession's regulatory board.

Board members, who oversee professional exams, are usually not allowed to take the exams because their positions may give them undue advantage.

In its decision, the antigraft court's Third Division said "the record is bereft of any convincing evidence demonstrating the accused took advantage of his position."

Two weeks earlier, however, another Sandiganbayan division affirmed the conviction of former board member, Dr. Marlene Oliveros, for taking the special exam while on the board in 2002. *Edson C. Tandoc Jr.*

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Rebelyn

PERHAPS THEY KILLED HER BECAUSE OF HER name? The 20-year-old teacher abducted by unknown armed men last Wednesday in Davao City and found dead later on Thursday in Carmen, Davao del Norte bore an unusual name: Rebelyn. It is only human nature to speculate that her name was an act of everyday poetry, chosen in homage to her father.

EDITORIAL

Rebelyn's father, Leoncio Pitao, is a rebel in deed. He is better known as Commander Parago of the New People's Army.

By all accounts, Rebelyn had chosen the straight and narrow; if she was suspected by the military or the police of aiding the communist insurgency, or being an insurgent herself, there is no evidence, no offer of proof. Her only crime was to be her father's daughter.

When news spread that Rebelyn had gone missing, and then that she had been found tortured to death, public opinion in Davao City immediately hardened into the fact of perception. That she had been abducted and killed because her father was a communist guerrilla.

The wealth of man-on-the-street interviews in the wake of her death provides a vivid snapshot of what people familiar with the situation or who had heard about the killing were thinking. The thoughts of a mother (of a 20-year-old daughter too, as it happens) were representative: "She's innocent and she has nothing to do with her father's revolution."

It also quickly became conventional wisdom that the military was behind the gruesome crime. A cigarette vendor spoke for many when he said, in the vernacular: "Who else could do that? Are we idiots? They can deny it, but we know that it is only the military that has the capacity and the motive to do something as brutal as this."

The public perception that military agents were behind the kidnapping, possible rape and killing of an innocent settled swiftly, discomfiting responsible military officers. Maj. Randolph Cabangbang, the spokesperson of the Armed Forces' Eastern Mindanao Command, confessed that he was upset. "It's really a concern. And we are bothered. That is why we have opened our doors to investigation for the truth to really come out. We want this issue to come to its end."

In Malacañang, President Macapagal-Arroyo ordered the Presidential Committee on Human Rights to conduct an investigation, and asked the independent Commission on Human Rights to conduct a parallel probe too. "The President ordered the investigation of the reported killing of the daughter of Commander Parago. The state also recognizes that this is a violation of human rights and that those responsible should be punished," Press Secretary Cerge Remonde said.

At least that much is clear: This is a human rights case, not an ordinary crime. We can start from that.

But where do we end? We can readily assume that many members of the military found Rebelyn's death a terrible and needless act. They would have thought so not only out of common decency but also because of a basic precept of warfare. Families of combatants ought not to be included in the order of battle.

But as has come to light in the last several years, the military continues to harbor extremists or mercenaries, who will not think twice about abducting UP students or killing peasant leaders. Under the Arroyo administration, this failure to end "special operations" (or this willingness to continue using them) has a symbol: now retired general Jovito Palparan.

The idiosyncratic tough-guy mayor of Davao City, Rodrigo Duterte, who is friends with Commander Parago, called Rebelyn's killing "a dead man's deal." (To be sure, this is also how kith and kin of the Davao Death Squad's many victims must feel, when they see their child or cousin or friend or playmate dead in the street. The only difference is that they're not friends of Duterte's.)

We can agree with Duterte on this one. The problem is, Duterte himself is a poster boy for the get-tough policies of the Arroyo administration. The President has reserved special praise for Duterte's no-nonsense approach to law and order, and even appointed him, once upon a time, as her consultant. But as should be clear by now, President Arroyo has other consultants, other poster boys for sanctioned violence. Rebelyn was just another victim.



Another fertilizer scam faces Arthur Yap

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

THE INVESTIGATION OF THE P728-MILLION fertilizer scam is not finished and those guilty have not been brought to justice yet but here is another fertilizer scam about to explode, this time in the face of Agriculture Secretary Arthur Yap. The DA has given the importation of inorganic fertilizer from China (yes, it's that country again). The fertilizer is now being sold to Filipino farmers—at a price slightly higher than that of other fertilizers.

The farmers, however, complained that there was something wrong with this fertilizer. Apparently their crops have not been benefiting from the expensive fertilizer. So, in Davao last last year, some of them brought samples to the Bureau of Soil and Water Management to have the product tested.

The farmers were shocked to discover that the nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium and moisture contents of this NPK compound fertilizer were way below specifications and way below what the product declared.

But the farmers have been paying the full price for the product. In short, they are being short-changed. And the question is how much in windfall profits has the distributor reaped by selling Filipino farmers a product that does not meet standards.

This column is not jumping to conclusions. But as the saying goes, "where there's smoke, there's fire. And the black smoke of a potential controversy indicates that our farmers have a valid complaint which should be looked into.

...

What closure?

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

...

The curious case of the Office of the Ombudsman

SOUNDING BOARD



Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, S.J.

Transport concerns of senior citizens

REVEILLE



Ramon J. Farolan

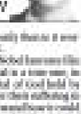
Amputations and evictions

COMMENTARY

Denis Murphy

God on trial

THE LONG VIEW



Manuel L. Quezon III

Still the same, 30 years on

On right of reply: a personal inside (page) story

Heavy traffic: bitter aftertaste of Tagaytay visits

Across the NATION

NPA leader says military behind slay

DAVAO CITY—IF THE KILLERS OF ELEMENTARY teacher Rebelyn Pitao wanted to shatter her father, Commander Parago of the New People's Army's Pulang Bagani Command, they apparently failed.

Retired UP professor unveils oil paintings of heritage trees

By Maricar P. Cinco
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA—THE bond that is cherished to her [illegible] people her age can see.

Dr. Merlinda Cervantes-Guevara, or Darling as she is fondly called, believes that art and science have their own disciplines, but she has managed to excel in both almost at the same time.

Tagged as the Mother of Plant Arts in the Philippines, the 82-year-old former Chemistry professor has remained a prolific oil painter whose subjects are mostly trees and flowering plants.

She unveiled her latest work, the UPLB Heritage Tree Series, on Friday, in honor of the 100th foundation of the College of Agriculture.

The 12-piece collection includes the "Lola Ibay," "White Lauan," "Pili," "Royal Palm," "Teak," "SU (Student Union) Building Bee Tree," "Tanguile Tree," "Molave," "Mango (Acacia)," "Narra," "Dao-dao" and "Tipg."

The trees were selected from the oldest found on the lower and upper (forestry area) campuses of the UPLB.

"By right, they (scientists) know which ones. It took them years to study the trees with several considerations [illegible] growth, and [illegible]. The older the better," Darling said.

The preparation for the UP centennial started in 2008 through Presidential Proclamation No. 1150, with Darling painting the hibiscus hybrid series.

The Heritage Tree Series are priced at P25,000 each, with P5,000 of the amount going to the university for the improvement of some roadsigns for the trees.

"I am old, but these trees are much older," Darling said.

The "Lola Ibay" for one, is more than 100 years old.

Darling donated the painting to UP president Emerlinda Roman who, she said, "liked" the tree as it is "very old and very sturdy."

She will donate another painting to former UP president Emil Javier.

Darling said she started working on the Heritage Trees in November last year, allotting a week for each piece.

She carefully studied each tree, recreated [illegible], and gave life to them on canvas.

As lovely as a tree

Although she started painting in 1953, Darling completely devoted her time to her art after she retired from teaching in 1991. "I do nothing but paint. That's my passion."

Darling did not have a formal arts education.

She said it was "no teacher" that she could use the "nostalgic beauty" in trees and plants.

"There is beauty in trees that only God can make," she said.

Darling, who married the late botanist Virgilio Guevara, maintains a botanical garden in her home in Los Baños.

"I'm surrounded by plants," from which she gets inspiration to her arts, she said.

She said the fertile soil in Mt. Makiling caused by an eruption about 100,000 years ago was the main reason UPLB has preserved the heritage trees.

Some of her works, which she said number over 500, includes paintings on acacia slabs, a painting of the Mussaenda Queen Sirikit presented to the Princess of Thailand and in 2008, the oil paintings of three Philippine native plant species used as a backdrop of the Philippine [illegible] Horticultural Booth to Kunming International Horticultural exposition in China.

Teacher by heart

Lorna [illegible], a former university staff member, was overwhelmed to see Darling after several years. She said her daughter was once Darling's student in an art class that the professor conducted as a "sideline."

"It's amazing that she could still remember my name," Lorna said. She had kept the family [illegible] that her daughter made out of the under Darling's class.

Darling, a pharmaceutical chemist by profession, taught in the colleges of chemistry, forestry and agriculture at the UPLB during the '50s.

Immortalizing

At the same time, she taught at the [illegible] School and UP Rural High School.

She plans to paint a pink Cadena de Amor.

Darling said the trees and her paintings both served the purpose of immortalizing her subjects. "Next to people, we have the trees," she said.



MERLINDA "Darling" Cervantes-Guevara shows her painting of the Lola Ibay, the tree found at the College of Forestry and Natural Resources Alumni Nature Park at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños.

Gov't doctor, NGO awarded for rural work, antitrafficking

SPECIAL FEATURE





DR. CHRISTOPHER C. BERNIDO and DR. MA. VICTORIA CARPIO BERNIDO

OFWs get another chance at Iloilo call center





MIGRATORY birds in search fishponds in Binmaley, Pangasinan, look for small fish to eat.

Migratory birds bane to fishpond owners

By Yolanda Sotelo
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BINMALEY, PANGASINAN—AN egret quietly stands in a corner of a fishpond in Barangay Baybay here and waits until a fish swims near it. The egret swiftly seizes the fish and swallows it.

It's an enthralling scene for bird watchers but a dreaded view for the fishpond owners.

Bird watchers are delighted when they see migratory birds dwelling in marshlands, mudflats, rivers and other water systems. But fishpond owners are alarmed by their presence as they are voracious fish eaters and feed on their stock.

"Whenever a pond is being harvested, the water birds arrive to partake of the catch. Even from afar, you will know that there's a harvest going on because hundreds of birds hover and catch the small ones left behind," said Binmaley captain Jesus Aquino, who operates fishponds here and in Lingayen and Dagupan towns.

Radar

Migratory birds are attracted to this town where thousands of hectares are devoted to "bangus" (milkfish) and prawn culture. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources identified the birds frequenting the town as little egret, intermediate egret, grey plover and common tern.

Aquino said the birds seem to have radar that lead them to where the harvest is and they stay for a day or two until they have consumed the little fish left in the ponds.

During summer, when the water level in the ponds goes down to less than one foot, the birds, which have long legs, wade in the water.

"If the fishpond owners are not alert, they will lose all their stocks, especially the fingerlings, which the birds gobble whole. The birds can eat a lot of small 'bangus,'" Aquino said.

The birds also catch the big "bangus" but only eat its eyes and intestines, and discard the body.

Mayor Samuel Rosario, who also owns fishponds here, said the birds pose problems to fishpond owners "because we can't control the birds and there are no instruments to drive them away."

"But the birds also help in a way because they eat the inedible fish in the ponds after harvest, which the pond operators have to remove anyway," he said.

Tourism

Rosario plans to make bird watching a tourism activity in the town, saying whenever there is pond to be harvested, he will have it announced through the media so bird lovers can visit the town.

The DENR's Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau counted in January this year 1,300 little egrets, 2,300 intermediate egrets, 400 grey plovers and 340 common terns in fishponds in Binmaley.

The birds are migratory according to the PAWB but Aquino said they have become "residents" and go where food is available.

"They go wherever there is harvest or where they find ponds with low water level," he said.

He said the birds probably rest in the woods in nearby towns at night, "but there are grey big birds that stay in the ponds even at night, eating the fish."

In the past, fishpond owners placed scarecrows on the ponds but these no longer frighten the birds, with some seen even perching on them, Aquino said.

To keep the birds away from fishponds, Aquino ties strings along the ponds in some islands. The birds' wings get entangled in the strings and are trapped.

Five birds have been caught by the strings in the past two weeks since the structure was placed, he said.

"I think the birds have learned that something will happen if they come near, and they stay away," Aquino said, adding that nets, which could be more effective, are expensive.

Complaints

In Bani town, municipal agriculturist Gloria Ulsa said she has been receiving complaints from fishpond owners who said they were losing their stocks to birds.

"But they could not cite statistics to prove their claim, although it is true that the migratory birds prey on fish," she said.

Bani has a 40-hectare mangrove forest in Bangrin village which has become a bird sanctuary and tourism site. Nearby are fishponds.

Migratory birds have also been frequenting the Hundred Islands National Park in Alaminos City.

The PAWB listed 17 villages in Pangasinan six towns and the DENR as places where migratory birds abound. These are Pao in Binmaley, Bayaoas in Binmaley, Bantog and Gasi in Alaminos, Anambaban and Bisocol in Bani, Caraguian in Burgos, Baliquiang, Arnedo, Lambes, Santiago Island and Zaragoza in Bolinao, Bangrin in Bani, Pangapisan and Abasa and the Bil-Bil in Alaminos City.

Probers watch pig farms in 3 regions

PANDI, BULACAN—AGRICULTURE AND health officials have set their eyes on commercial pig farms and backyard pens in three regions to ensure that the Ebola-Reston virus would not spread.

"We will hunt the virus wherever it is. We will conduct random sampling in the rest of Bulacan, Region 3 (Central Luzon), Region 1 (Ilocos) and Region 4 (Southern Tagalog)," said Dr. Eric Tayag, chief of the Department of Health's National Epidemiology Center, in a telephone interview on Saturday.

A team composed of 70 Bureau of Agriculture Industry personnel, volunteers, farm workers and policemen worked from March 1 to 6 to kill and bury 6,212 pigs in a pig farm in Barangay Isla, Pandi here, where the Ebola-Reston virus was found.

"We are going to answer this question: Has it spread in Bulacan? Has it spread to other regions? How wide has it spread? We'll try to know where the virus is," Tayag said.

Sampling

Random sampling will start as soon as BAI receives 20,000 testing kits from the World Health Organization, he said.

Dr. Davinio Catbagan, BAI director, said they would take blood samples from pigs in 100 backyard farms in other parts of Bulacan, Pampanga, Nueva Ecija and Tarlac to check the presence of the virus.

Tayag belied reports that six workers in the Pandi farm got ill because of the virus before or during the culling that began on March 1.

He said the virus was contracted by two farm workers in Pandi and one each in Valenzuela City and Pangasinan. Two workers in slaughterhouses in Cabanatuan City and Pangasinan also caught the virus.

"They had positive antibodies so they managed to fight [the virus]. Ebola Reston has yet to cause illness in humans. But is the reason our government is aggressive and doing very, very early detection and preventive measures," Tayag said.

To make sure that the virus has been eliminated in the farm, Catbagan said the four-hectare facility would be disinfected for a week.

Rhinoceroses will be used to extinguish the virus that may have settled in the cracks of the pens, Tayag said.

"It will take a few weeks or months before the BAI and BOH decide if the farm can open again," he said.

Once the farm is allowed to operate again, Tayag said a new stock of healthy pigs would be put in place. The new stock, he said, would be monitored.

"We will disinfect the farm, put in a new stock of healthy pigs and observe them," he said.

The pig farm in Pangasinan has been quarantined since November or almost the same time when the virus was detected in the Pandi farm, Tayag said.

BAI has also taken blood samples from hogs in the Pandi farm so the agency and DOH could gather reagents for testing and eventually develop vaccines against the virus, he said.

Debriefing

Tayag said the members of the team involved in the process have started undergoing a second round of psycho-social debriefing.

When the disinfection is done by next week, members of the culling team are required to monitor their body temperatures daily for 21 days. They are allowed to return to their families and work places, Tayag said.

"I feel relieved after the last pig was out. We're done with the monitoring task. We're out of the hot zone, done with working under the hot sun or feeling pressures from the direct [illegible]," he said.

Catbagan described the depopulation process as "from good to best."

"This was the first time that we did this process on pigs and on a huge population at that ... There were initial problems, like malfunctioning equipment, but we managed to address it. The process ran smoothly until the end," he said. —*Carmela Reyes and Erwin Delgado, Inquirer Central Luzon*



A TEAM from the Bureau of Animal Industry that conducted the slaughter and burning of Ebola-infected pigs managed to kill 6,212 pigs in a three-hour operation on March 1.

Bicol police exec, staff relieved for 'hazing'

By Juan Escandor Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

NAGA CITY—ACTING ON A DIRECTIVE from the National Police Commission (Napolcom) to investigate and immediately act on an alleged hazing incident that happened during the training of police in Bicol, the chief of the Regional Mobile Group (RMG) and the whole police training staff in Bicol were relieved from their duties pending investigation.

Chief Supt. Ponciano Rangeal, regional director of the Philippine National Police, said Senior Supt. Joel Regondola, RMG chief, and 28 training staff members were relieved from their duties effective March 5, and as a procedure, were evicted from the RMG office in Camp Simeon Ola and ordered to stay at the Regional Personnel Holding Administrative Unit (RPHAU) while being investigated.

Rangeal said Regondola and the training staff members could face administrative and criminal charges if allegations of hazing on police recruits being trained for the RMG were proven true. They could be dismissed from their ranks or dismissed from service, he added.

He said they were sent by the Napolcom a video copy of the alleged hazing that showed trainees blindfolded and physically harassed by the police trainers.

'Ritual'

Rangeal said he had confronted Regondola regarding the video and warned them that they could be charged for violating the antihazing law and that hazing is prohibited in any police training.

He said Regondola explained to them that they were only doing some kind of ritual to make the training memorable for the police trainees before receiving their caps.

But Rangeal said he told Regondola and the training staff that if it was a ritual to mean not involve physical contact or harm the trainees.

Urged to file charges

He added that prodding or injuries would be acceptable.

He said after the investigation, he would decide what action he would undertake next.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan)-Bikol and the human rights organization Karapatan-Bikol urged hazing victim Jessie Apuesto and his family as well as the other victims to file charges against the PNP, particularly the RMG based in Legazpi City, especially now that the videos proving the PNP's violence has been exposed.

"We are glad that someone came out to expose the barbarism in counterinsurgency trainings of the RMG. If they can do this to one of their own, then just imagine what they would do to civilians," said John Concepcion, spokesperson of Karapatan-Bikol.

He also asked the Commission on Human Rights to look into the matter as well as the actual training of the military and the police "because if hazing is involved in their training, then we have nothing to expect but violent and trigger-happy cops and soldiers who are supposedly here to serve and protect us."

PDIC asks bank depositors to wait until March 18

By Nik Bagaipo
Inquirer Visayas

TACLOBAN CITY—DEPOSITORS OF THE closed Filipino Rural Bank (FRBank) whose insurance claims are not yet processed by the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC) will again have to wait until March 18.

The deposit insurer ended on Friday its initial claims servicing operations but hundreds of depositors were unable to get their insurance claims.

Although the PDIC representatives did not reveal the number of claims already paid, they admitted that not all regular savings accounts with deposit balances of P100,000 and below were serviced.

The FRBank Tacloban had over 14,000 clients when the bank shut down last Dec. 12, following the collapse of its affiliate rural banks across the country belonging to the Legacy group.

In an advisory, the PDIC said they would start distributing numbered claim forms at the premises of FRBank on March 18 for depositors with regular savings accounts, time deposits, special savings accounts and current/demand deposits.

The date on the claim form should correspond to a particular filing date, the advisory said.

Depositors are required to personally file their claims except those who are below 7 years old.

According to the PDIC advisory, claims they receive will be processed through its home office in Manila. Valid claims will be paid through registered mail to the depositors' address indicated in the claim form.

No fees are charged for the processing and payment of all deposit insurance claims, the PDIC reminds depositors of the closed rural bank.

More troops from Eastern Visayas sent to Negros Occidental

By Joey A. Gabieta
Inquirer Visayas

TACLOBAN CITY—CLOSE TO 500 soldiers from Eastern Visayas departed Friday for Negros Occidental to augment military forces facing an upsurge of rebel attacks on major plantations and other private companies in the province.

The soldiers belong to the 62nd Infantry Battalion and under the command of Lt. Col. Alberto Desuyo.

"This is part of our mission. To help clear Negros [Occidental] of its insurgency problem," Desuyo told reporters shortly before their departure.

The send-off ceremony held at 3 p.m. Friday at the Tacloban wharf was attended by the relatives and wives of the soldiers.

Maj. Gen. Arthur Tabaquero, commanding general of the 8th Infantry Division based in Catbalogan, Samar, reminded the soldiers not to forget their task and to "be proud that you are from the 8th ID."

Finish job in six months

Tabaquero was referring to the performance of the soldiers in neutralizing the insurgency in Samar and parts of Eastern Samar provinces. The main base of the 62nd Infantry Battalion is in Dolores, Eastern Samar.

The soldiers departed on board the BRP Dagupan, a Philippine Navy ship marked LP 557. They were expected to arrive today in Negros Occidental.

Desuyo could not say where the soldiers would base except to say that they would dock at La Carlota City.

"We will stay there as long as the problem exists. We really don't know when we will return here in the region," Desuyo said.

But Tabaquero projected that the soldiers might finish their "job" in six months.

In 1993, soldiers belonging to the 62nd IB were also deployed in Mindanao. They returned to the region in 2005.

Tabaquero said the deployment of troops to Negros Island was an indication that the insurgency problem in Eastern Visayas no longer poses a serious threat to the region's peace and order.

This was the second time in less than a year that soldiers based in Eastern Visayas were deployed elsewhere.

Campaign vs rebels and MILF

In August last year, members of the 62nd IB and 4th IB were deployed in Northern Mindanao to help in the campaign against rebels and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. They have yet to return to the region.

With this latest troop deployment, soldiers from the reconnaissance battalion and Scout Rangers of the 8th ID would be assigned to oversee areas under the 62nd IB. "We will also augment our forces there with the help of our Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Unit (Cafgu) members," Tabaquero said.

2 more Legacy execs willing to testify


ROXAS




SANTOS


DE LOS ANGELES

Election campaign

Center Rural Bank

Subscribe and sell

No cash infusion

Other witnesses

House probe

Court . . .

Old glory

Sale aborted

P487M siphoned off Legacy bank

Business model

Fourth wave

Palace on Mancao case: No overreaction, please

Not authenticated

Mancao called

Won't oppose extradition

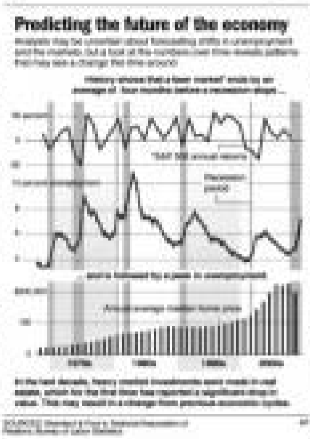
Think tank cites risk of martial law return

Presidential aspirants

Machinery, resources

Spoilers

US recovery won't come anytime soon, say experts



Weak for years

Housing crash

Unsold homes

Worst bear market

Bottom

Capitulation

Diaspora in reverse seen in third wave of recession

Reverse diaspora

RP unemployment

Remittances likely to stall

Social ferment

The Daily Gospel

Late SPORTS



Beermen cut upstart Titans down to size

Alcantara seals RP Cuppers' win

Don't underestimate Hatton, says Manny

Aplus METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

DID YOU KNOW

THE NATIONAL Commission on the Role of Filipino Women was established by a presidential decree in 1975, International Women's Year, as an advisory body to the President and the Cabinet on policies and programs for the advancement of women. It currently holds office in San Miguel, Manila.

Inquirer Research

Store owner wins lawsuit vs MMDA

Court rules demolished store built on private, not public, property

By Norman Bordadora

THE COURT OF APPEALS HAS ORDERED THE METROPOLITAN Manila Development Authority to pay Gloria Fenol—the owner of a small "sari-sari" store—at least P50,000 in damages for demolishing the structure and seizing her goods during a sidewalk clearing operation in 2005.

In a 19-page decision, the appellate court's Twelfth Division reversed the ruling of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court on Dec. 19, 2007, that the store was located on a sidewalk along Edsa which according to the lower court was government property.

The appellate court, however, ruled on Feb. 27 that Fenol's store—which was located in front of the Forester Lumber building in Cubao, Quezon City—was built on private property.

"In conducting their sidewalk clearing operation, respondents should have exercised more caution and should have refrained from clearing their (sic) stores when petitioner presented her supporting documents," it said.

"By their oppressive acts, they have deprived the petitioner of property without due process. It cannot be gainsaid that their wrongful indiscriminate acts had caused petitioner mental anguish, wounded feelings, and social humiliation," the appellate court added.

Fenol presented as part of her evidence a lease contract with APC Realty Corp., owner of Forester Lumber, and a certification from the Quezon City Engineer's Office that said the subject stall was "within ... the lot property of Ms. Ang Ngo Chong."

The MMDA, on the other hand, invoked its authority under the law to clear streets, alleys, sidewalks and other public places of ob-

PDI/HB/KS

Food prices in metropolis stable, says DA report

METRO
Citizen's call
0918-8985566



OVERSTAYING BUSES AT AYALA LOADING BAY

Tricycles take over sidewalks in Cubao

Vendor Power in Blumentritt

Long lines at LRT Santolan station

Jeepneys truly the King of the Road

Turn these headlights on, please

Still no action on A. H. Lacson Street

No respect for curfew in Paco

Attention, Muntinlupa vice mayor

Jeepney terminal at Gil Puyat-Chino Roces

Wanted: Urinal at Pureza

Overcharging taxi cab driver



KITE FLIERS

Pasig City's best students to get cash gifts

METROBRIEFS

Hit-and-run victim dies

Makati City to get a new top cop



COOL DOG

Boy hurt at airport

Store owner wins lawsuit vs MMDA

The WORLD

Obama considers reaching out to Taliban

WASHINGTON—US PRESIDENT Barack Obama said, in an interview published on Sunday, that the United States is not winning the war in Afghanistan and hinted at possible talks with moderate elements of the Taliban.



OBAMA with wife Michelle.

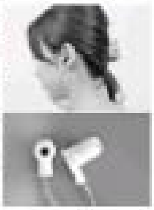
President's stem-cell pledge revives volatile debate

Zimbabwe opposition plans probe of car crash



Bangladesh women, children bear scars of acid attacks

Japanese gizmo controls iPod in the blink of an eye



PROTOTYPE earphone-shaped device for electronic devices.

Young racers in Saudi roar all night, fueled by boredom

infinity

present

The Leadership Conference Series 2



Former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
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Special Envoy, Quartet on the Middle East

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Sofitel Philippine Plaza, Harbor Garden Tent
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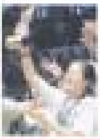
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Strict security guidelines will be implemented.
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WHAT'S INSIDE
Lady Archers clinch it A30



SPORTS

Editor Teddyvic E. Melendres • Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Ochoa



Mamiit seals Davis Cup victory

Fil-Am hero pulls off dramatic 5-set decision over HK ace



YOU'RE NO. 1 AGAIN Cecil Mamiit rescues the Filipino netters with a come-from-behind victory in the reverse singles as the Philippines finally eliminated Hong Kong, 3-1.

PHILIPPINE TENNIS WELCOMED BACK CECIL MAMIIT joyously into its fold yesterday.













COJUANGCO

'Self-sufficient' SEA Games team in the works

By June Navarro and Cedelf P. Tupas

Lady Archers clinch it

Complete amazing comeback with 4-set victory over FEU

By Cedelf P. Tupas



HAIL THE MVP Manilla Santos receives quite a handful of praise from her La Salle teammates.

Fita raises threat of archery ban on Filipinos

By June Navarro

MisOr Meteors nip Cebu five for 3rd title

Five shooters top Youth Olympics qualifying norm

Sportswatch

SJC Circuit cockfest today

'Tata Pete' derby gets going

Pancho Villa enshrined in Elorde Hall of Fame



WORLD OF SPORTS

Honda Classic: Yang up by 1

Japan batters in 2nd round



Lee makes All England final

Hot Cavs no match for Heat

James scores 21st TD, eclipses 3,000 assists mark



Serbia's Davis Cup hope in Djokovic's hands



Django returning to form

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo



Man U, Chelsea snag FA Cup semis berths



Buenavista, Fetalvero still dzMM champs

By Cedelf P. Tupas

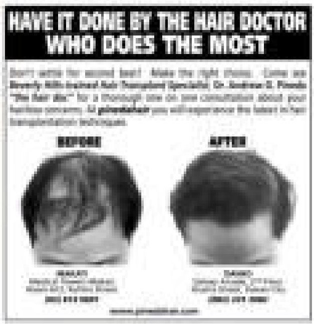


BUENAVISTA



SPORTS

Juvic settles for 10th spot





BUSINESS

BSP hints at further monetary easing

Cut in reserve requirement on banks seen likely

By Michelle V. Remo

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG Pilipinas said it was open to further reducing the reserve requirement on banks as a

IN THIS ISSUE

- More education, skills urged to fill BPO jobs /B5
- RP exports to Japan up 1% in '08 to $8.8B /B10

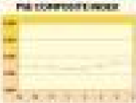
PSE curbs trading infractions in Gatchalian firms

By Doris C. Dumlao

CURRENCIES



STOCK MARKET



Narrow trading range seen

From 'greed is good' to common good

No Free Lunch
Cielito F. Habito

IN HIS LATEST BOOK OUTLIERS, Malcolm Gladwell (of Tipping Point and Blink fame) describes the mystery one town of Roseto, Pennsylvania, whose residents rarely showed any signs of heart disease. With heart attacks being the leading cause of death in men under age 65 nationwide in the 1950s, the seeming immunity of the Rosetans led physician Stewart Wolf to investigate why. He quickly ruled out good diet and exercise as the secret, even finding that the Rosetans' calorie intake prominently came from fat, and that the residents were heavy smokers, with obesity common among the populace. Further deepening the puzzle, he also found that suicide, alcoholism, drug addiction, crime and peptic ulcers were virtually nonexistent in Roseto. After extensive study that kept ruling out one plausible explanation after another, Wolf and his sociologist friend John Bruhn finally singled out what really distinguished the people of this town, who were almost exclusively composed of or descended from immigrants from a town of the same name in Italy. It was their strong sense of community. In a profession unaccustomed to thinking of health in this light, it wasn't easy for Wolf to convince his peers of his unusual findings.

Primacy of community

Roseto's experience was an early affirmation of what is now quietly but steadily gaining ground as a powerful motivation on which to build development efforts and initiatives to uplift people's lives. Whereas the old mantra for rapid economic growth had been "markets," the new mantra for broad-based sustainable development is "community." Be it in the management of upland forests or coastal fisheries, in the monitoring of poverty and people's basic needs and in addressing them, in promoting meaningful quality education, or in other development pursuits, asserting the primary role of the community has consistently proven to yield positive and superior outcomes. Indeed, in many instances, experience points to the conclusion that a community-based approach is the only way to go.

And it all stands to reason. Development, after all, is not something delivered from the outside, but something that comes from within. I have often said that sustainable development is not something governments do for people; it is something people achieve for themselves. Communities are in the best position to know what their needs are, and what resources and capabilities they have at their disposal to meet them. Thus, they must be the prime movers of any efforts to uplift the lives of their members.

Managing resources

The Philippines' forest cover, after dwindling to a low of 5.4 million hectares by 1988 from 21 million hectares in 1900, had since gone up to 7.2 million hectares as of 2005. This is largely attributed to the government's shift to a community-based forest management (CBFM) strategy from the previous approach of reforestation by administration where upland settlers were simply employed as daily wage

NO FREE LUNCH B4

A notebook of epic proportions.
The new 17-inch MacBook Pro.



Meet the ultimate mobile studio: the new 17-inch MacBook Pro.
It features a breakthrough built-in battery that delivers up to 8 hours of wireless productivity on a single charge· and can be recharged up to 1000 times-more than three times the lifespan of typical notebook batteries.. The high-resolution LED-backlit widescreen display has a color gamut that's 60 percent greater than that of previous generations. And high-performance NVIDIA graphics processors make it the perfect solution for the latest 3D video games and graphics-intensive applications.

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For authorized resellers listing, please visit www.asia.apple.com/buy/locator

PDIC eyes bond sale to pay Legacy-related claims

Borrowing will be covered by sovereign guarantee

Transco plans to sell ₱6B worth of assets

Veterans Bank expanding branch network

No free lunch

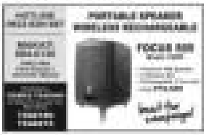
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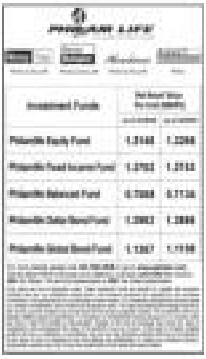
Uplifting lives

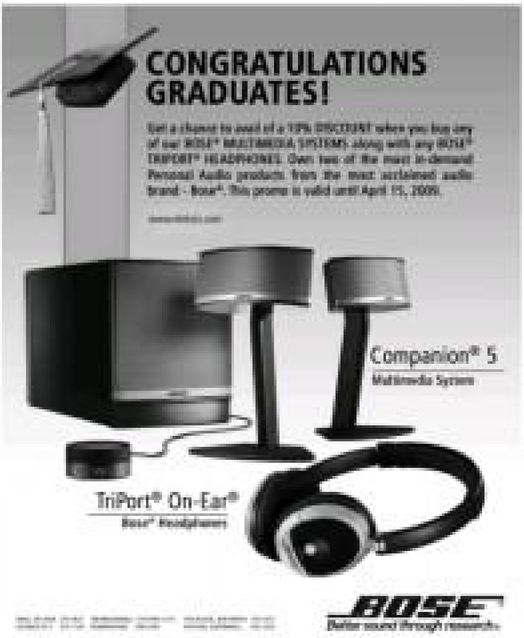
More education, skills urged to fill BPO jobs

By Abigail L. Ho

[illegible]



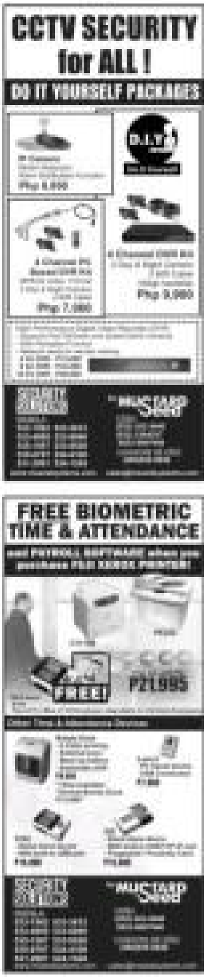




Food prices stable, DA says

By Riza T. Olchondra

[illegible]





Merrill Lynch sees peso at 48.50 to $1 this year

By Doris C. Dumlao

Recovery to 46.50 seen in 2010

JG Summit keeps 36% stake in Singapore property firm

BSP hints at further ...

PSE curbs trading ...

Narrow ...

Maybank

Globe's $50-M loan approved

By Michelle V. Remo

Sara Lee outsources to IBM Manila

By Abigail L. Ho

BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

Makati City, Metro Manila

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

March 31, 2009

INFOTECH



THE N86 8MP has a dual LED that could double as light source when taking videos.

A phone to rival stand-alone cameras

By Charles E. Buban

REMEMBER NOKIA'S N90 multimedia? It was in 2005 when the Finnish mobile phone giant introduced this rotating flip-phone that could take high quality pictures as well as videos from its then class-leading 2 megapixel camera.

That phone was also Nokia's first multimedia device to incorporate Carl Zeiss optics.

The Carl Zeiss logo should ring a bell because this respected name in optical engineering and technology has, for years, been adorning almost every kind of fancy products from its most advanced digital SLRs and camcorders down to its compact point-and-shoot models.

In a few weeks time, consumers will again see this Carl Zeiss logo on one of Nokia's most advanced camera phones to date, the N86 8MP.



"WITH N86 8MP, who needs a stand-alone camera?"

Dedication

"This close collaboration with Carl Zeiss underlines Nokia's dedication to excel in mobile imaging products and as we strive to set a new benchmark for the mobile imaging industry with the introduction of the N86 8MP," said Chris Carr, VP for sales of Nokia South-east Asia Pacific.

So how advanced is this new camera phone?

For starters, this phone is equipped with a wide-angle Carl Zeiss Tessar lens that is able to produce up to 8MP photo.

With a 28 mm wide [illegible] lens, the N86 8MP's could capture a much wider field than most stand-alone digital cameras in the market today and thus, this phone is more capable of taking group shots or panoramic views.

Variable aperture

A first for camera phones, the N86 8MP's lens is equipped with variable aperture. This means the N86 8MP could adjust to shoot on both bright and low light conditions. Sadly, this feature is automatically chosen by the camera (from three 3-step options of F2.4, F3.2 and F4.8) and is not possible to set this manually.

The N86 8MP is also one of the first mobile phones to feature a mechanical shutter that is capable of shutter speeds as fast as 1/1000th second.

By the way, this same lens allows the N86 8MP to capture excellent video, record clips in VGA resolution (640 x 480) at 30 frames per second.

LED flash

While the N86 8MP is not equipped with the more powerful Xenon flash, it has a dual 3rd generation LED that doubles as light source when taking video recording on low light conditions.

What could be the biggest advantage offered by the N86 8MP is what users could immediately do with the photos they have just taken.

"Photos taken can be geotagged and uploaded to Nokia's Ovi Share or Flickr. Also, the captured photos with geotags are visually marked in the phone's Map application," described Carr.

The phone also has a built-in digital compass to ease the user needs to do some "old school" navigation, said Carr.

He said the Nokia's Ovi service made it possible to upload and share a "walked route" that included the photos the user had captured along the way.

The N86 8MP comes with an 8 GB built-in memory. And despite the fact that this allows a user to store up to 4,000 high quality photos or up to 7 hours of video playback, one could still store some more, up to 16 GB in fact, using a microSD card.



HITACHI'S Deskstar E7K1000

Rise of the terabytes

Text and photo
by Charles E. Buban

NO, THIS IS NOT ABOUT alien robots and their Earth-conquering weapons but of storage drives offering 1,000 gigabytes of space.

The idea of a terabyte storage drive seems almost ludicrous. Who needs that much storage?

But with the arrival of new operating systems (such as Vista, which takes up at least 8 GB for a basic install), graphic-heavy applications (games like Doom 3) as well as the need to store up more high resolution photos, video and music files, a terabyte storage drive begins to feel like a necessity, not just a luxury.

In January 2007, Hitachi Global Storage Technologies made headlines when its Deskstar 7K1000 became the first hard drive to hit the terabyte mark.

But with competition catching up, Hitachi felt it's about time to update its Deskstar line with E7K1000, a second-generation 1TB storage drive, which does not offer more capacity or speed, but effective power saving features.

Hitachi said the Deskstar E7K1000 seeks to address business critical storage systems where the combination of power, reliability and performance is of critical importance.

It comes with a 32MB buffer, five-year warranty, 1.2 million hour Mean Time Between Failure (average time between failures of a system) and Rotational Vibration Safeguard technology for robust performance in multi-drive environments.

Instead of five 200 GB platters, the Deskstar E7K1000 features three 334 GB platters, which Hitachi says, improves idle power consumption up to 49 percent compared with their last year's model.

Compared to the first generation's 8.4 watts consumption, the E7K1000 now only needs 5.2 to 6.4 watts.

In a bid to further reduce power consumption, the E7K1000 is also equipped with Hitachi's Voltage Efficiency Regulator Technology, a novel power-saving technology that further reduces power consumption of the storage device.

Value-for-money products from Acer

LOCAL ECONOMISTS SUGGEST THAT in difficult times, one should be wise in spending his hard-earned money.

Before buying anything, all things should be considered. In buying notebooks and desktops, for instance, one should pick only those with proven track record in terms of cost-effectiveness, performance and value-for-money qualities.

Two classic IT products—particularly the Aspire X1700 desktop and the Aspire 4930G notebook—possess all those characteristics.

Even if it measures only about a third of a regular-sized PC, Acer Aspire X1700 packs power and a stronger punch inside. It has an Intel Pentium Dual Core E2220 (2.4GHz, 1MB L2, 800MHz FSB) processor coupled with an NVIDIA GeForce 7100 and nForce 630i chipset. It also comes with a 1 GB DDR2 800MHz memory.

The Aspire X1700 has a 160GB SATA II 7200 rpm hard drive for storing large-sized files such as images and videos. In terms of multimedia performance, it has a double super multi DL optical drive, an integrated NVIDIA GeForce 7100 graphics solution and embedded high-definition audio with 5.1-channel surround sound support. These features come in handy in high-quality computer presentations or in playing movies and high-definition games.



The Acer Aspire 4730Z comes with an Intel Pentium Dual Core T3200 (2.0GHz, 1MB L2 cache, 667MHz FSB) processor with a Mobile Intel GL40 Express chipset for consistent and reliable performance even when doing PC work sessions.

Together with a 2GB DDR2 memory and a 160GB SATA hard drive, "edutainment" would find working outside with an Acer Aspire 4730Z a breeze.

Its 14.1-inch WXGA TFT LCD display and Acer's CrystalBrite technology are ideal for viewing files or watching videos even in a bright setting.

Credit goes as well to its Intel GMA4500MHD graphics solution, with up to 1759MB of Intel DVMT 5.0 (64MB of dedicated memory up to 1309MB shared).

For audio quality, the Acer Aspire 4730Z has built-in Dolby Digital Surround Sound effects, complemented by the Acer Arcade software for music and video. It has a built-in 8X Super Multi DVD Double Layer drive.

The Acer Aspire 4730Z is also a perfect companion for real-time communications, providing the luxury of seeing who one is chatting with via the integrated Acer CrystalEye Web cam.

New solutions for enhanced mobile communication

LENOVO AND RESEARCH IN MOTION (RIM) said they would be working together to promote new Lenovo mobile solutions that would help on-the-go business users enhance their mobile computing and communications experience through tighter integration between Lenovo ThinkPad laptop computers and BlackBerry smartphones.

With Lenovo's global R&D capabilities and engineering prowess in laptop computers and RIM's expertise in smartphones and wireless solutions, Lenovo plans to develop a range of industry-leading solutions and technologies that can help professionals do business more effectively on the go.

Lenovo Constant Connect, the first solution developed by Lenovo, will capitalize on the strengths of the BlackBerry solution and Lenovo ThinkPad laptops to deliver an unparalleled user experience in flexible, ideal-time access to enterprise-based e-mail. Lenovo Constant Connect allows enterprise e-mail received on a user's BlackBerry smartphone to be automatically synchronized via Bluetooth onto the user's ThinkPad laptop—even if it is off.

This level of integration and availability improves access to e-mail on the Lenovo ThinkPad laptop from wherever a BlackBerry smartphone can access a connection. In addition to greater flexibility and convenience, it also reduces the need to use the laptop with free-based Wi-Fi® networks.

"With more and more mobile professionals relying on both their BlackBerry smartphones and ThinkPad laptop PC, we view better integration between the two devices as a necessity," said Lenovo CEO Yang Yuanqing in a statement.



ENTERPRISE e-mail received on a BlackBerry smartphone are synchronized via Bluetooth onto a user's ThinkPad laptop—even if it is off.

₱1.27B in oil contracts awarded by Napocor

BSP regulates e-payment schemes

Requires registration for 'electronic money'

Superferry sale sealed by next month





Business

RP exports to Japan up 1% in '08 to $8.8B

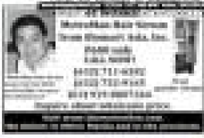
Grim prospects for '09 as recession hits 2nd largest economy

By Abigail L. Ho

EXPORTS FROM THE PHILIPPINES to Japan reached close to $8.8 billion in 2008, representing a modest 1-percent growth for the year amid the global recession.



BUSINESS *Monday*





IN THIS ISSUE

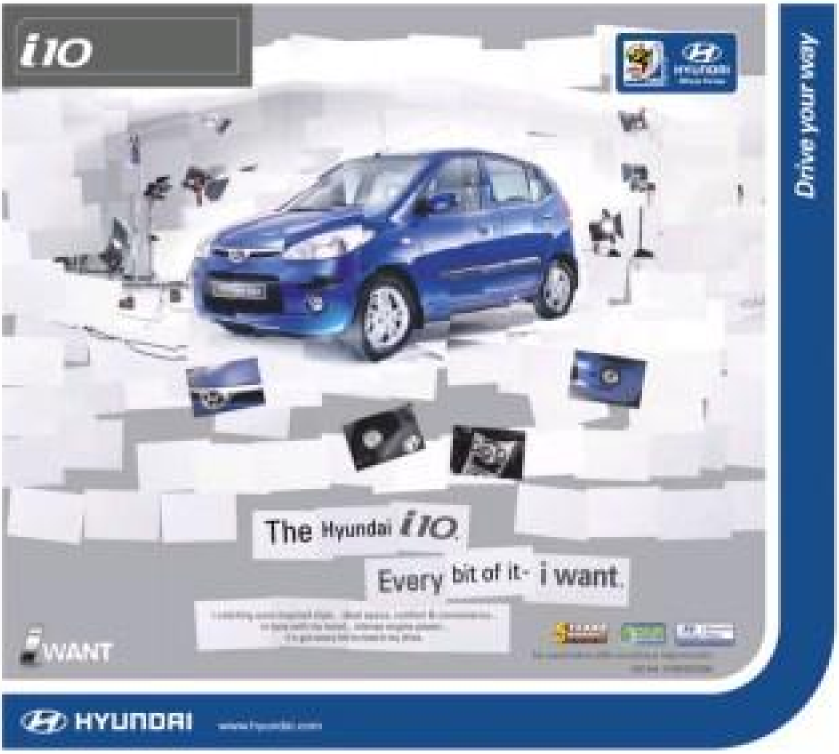


Search on for relevant strategies

Old models no longer work

By Ross T. Doringo
Contributor







Jumping on coconut, jatropha bandwagon

North Samar farmers to get seedlings

Search on for relevant strategies

Protect your core business. Don't starve it by having it subsidize unprofitable, cash draining, noncore business units





Managing downsizing in troubled companies

Workers are willing to make sacrifices just to keep their job

By Gina M. Hechanova and Alfred A. Presbitero Jr.
Contributors

DOWNSIZING—THE VERY same strikes fear in the heart of many. Given the today's financial crisis, downsizing has become a reality for many organizations.

Ateneo Center for Organization Research and Development carried out a study to examine how organizations can help employees cope with downsizing and what employees are willing to do to help prevent downsizing. Thirty-nine corporations participated in the study.

Communication

The results suggest there are ways to manage downsizing effectively. Surprisingly, communication was the most cited coping tool for downsizing. This means giving employees a clear picture of why, how and when the downsizing will take effect.

Much grumbling around and the uncertainty just makes people unproductive because much of their time and energy is spent on guessing when it will happen and who will be involved.

Other organizations that are scared of employee sabotage choose to surprise employees by giving them a "pink slip" on the day itself. However, this is the most traumatic experience of all as employees really feel as if the rug has been pulled from under them.

They end up resenting the company for not trusting them enough after all the years they had spent in the organization. What the results imply is that it is just as vital that people are psychologically prepared for a downsizing.

Safety net

Beyond communication, separation packages, workshops on career planning, financial management and providing outplacement services to assist in future prepare them for life outside the organization.

However, employees also said that they would prefer that the organization explore options before resorting to downsizing. Interestingly, some employees claimed that they would have been willing to help the organization survive, if only to prevent a downsizing.

The study revealed that the majority of the respondents are willing to reducing work hours, forego their salary increases, decrease their benefits, work longer hours with no overtime pay or take a pay cut to prevent downsizing.

Survivors

The message here is that employees are willing to cooperate if they are only involved in problem solving. Asking the employees themselves if organizations is a good place to start. Employers may be pleasantly surprised at what their workers may be willing to sacrifice to avoid downsizing.

It is also important to take care of those who survived the downsizing. People who are retained in the organization may have the same feelings as those who were dismissed. Some organizations hold debriefing sessions after downsizing to help survivors cope with the pain of the past and anxiety for the future. Organizations need to ensure that the morale of the organization does not deteriorate following a downsizing.

Organizations also need to develop a vision of the future that draws people so they will not be tempted to just jump ship. This implies that leadership is very important especially during downsizing.

Certainly some things need to be pushed, but during the traumatic transition period, it's important that leaders don't focus too much on efficiency rate, take or poor attitudes.

Instead they must spend their efforts in encouraging people to be successful in bridging the gap between the old and new.

(Hechanova is the executive director of the Ateneo CORD. Presbitero is a graduate the Ateneo de Manila University, Department of Psychology. To learn more about how to better manage employee separation, attend Ateneo CORD's Breakfast Seminar on March 25, 2009. For inquiries and reservations, please contact Ateneo CORD at 426-5905 or ateneocord@ateneo.edu.ph.)



Honda Expands Dealership Network with Honda Cars Batangas

Defying economic woes, Honda Cars Philippines, Inc. opens its 25th dealership in the country, Honda Cars Batangas (HCBT). With this, Honda strengthens its dealership network in Southern Luzon, bringing world class Honda vehicles and services closer to its customers.

With the addition of Honda's latest dealership, Batangueños now have more convenient access to state-of-the art facilities, competent service technicians, well-trained sales associates and accommodating customer relations officers. Housed in comfortable and modern showroom interiors, HCBT offers sale of the latest Honda models of Honda Accord, CR-V, Civic, City and Jazz, as well as parts and accessories. HCBT also provides preventive maintenance and general body and paint repairs.

Honda Cars Batangas is strategically located along Diversion Road, Brgy. Bolbok, Batangas City and lies along the business hub of the area. It is also just 5 minutes away from Batangas City proper. Under the leadership of its President and General Manager, Mr. Mariano Lozada, Honda Cars Batangas commits to upholding Honda's prestigious image and dedication to providing high-quality products and expert after-sales services for total customer satisfaction.

To know more about the dealership, you may reach Honda Cars Batangas through telephone numbers **(043) 783-0760** and **(043) 402-0384** or you may log on to **www.hondacarsbatangas.com.**



BUSINESS Monday





AYALA Corp. is safe in the hands of the 7th generation led by brothers Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II (right) and Fernando.

175 years and counting

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THESE DAYS OF UNPARALLELED uncertainty are not exactly the most auspicious time to mark a major milestone in a company's history.

Practically everybody is on edge and in no mood for big celebrations because of the debilitating effects of the global economic turmoil.

Ayala Corp. CEO Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II, however, begs to disagree.

The 50-year-old Zobel believes that the fact that the group is still around while other revered names have become mere footnotes in corporate history is a reason first worth celebrating, albeit admittedly in a more subdued way.

The sprawling conglomerate that traces its roots to Casa Roxas put up in Manila in 1834 by Domingo Roxas and Antonio de Ayala has had its share of ups and downs over the past 175 years, but it has proven time and again its ability to endure the worst of times and then come out on top.

In a recent discussion, Zobel and his younger brother Fernando, chief operating officer of Ayala Corp., shared some of the strategies the group is employing to ride out these days of difficulty to ensure that Ayala Corp. under the seventh generation will emerge from yet another downturn bigger and better than ever.

Question: As you reflect on what the group has achieved over 175 years, what aspect of it would you like to celebrate this year?

Zobel: When Fernando and I took over, we were just so keen to mark a progressive, forward-looking attitude, particularly in my

CONTINUED ON B2

People, Events & Products

PixLink enables online photo posts via cell



METROBANK RAISES THE BAR THREE FOLD IN ANNUAL REPORTS



'ECONOMY CLASS': FIRST CLASS FUN AND MUSIC

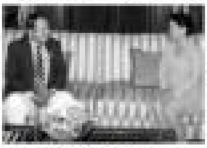


TIM GETS I.T. DONE IN 2009

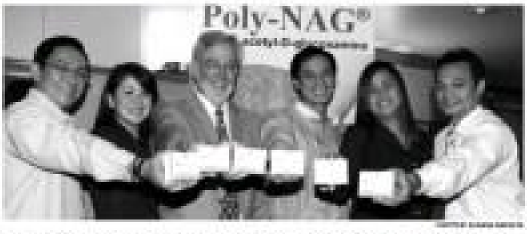
Montano named Western Union ambassador



Urban Institute's seminars on real estate



CMA AWARDS RP INVENTOR



PASCUAL LABORATORIES INTRODUCES NEW MEDICINE TO TREAT OSTEOARTHRITIS

175 years and counting







> 'We try to attract the most talented, independent minded but value driven executive teams'



Goings-on

Pilipinas Shell partners with Philippine Eagle Foundation

Companies with a heart

LIFESTYLE Arts & Books

The return of Betsy Westendorp

Text and photos
by Dazza B. Manila
Contributor

BETSY WESTENDORP STARTed the day like any other. She had packed her painting tools and was soon on her way to Port Area in Manila with daughter Sylvia.

Betsy, named after her godmother, the Dutch painter Betsy Westendorp-Osieck, had always been fascinated by the wooden houses on stilts.

"Beautiful" was how she described the barong-barong, the fishermen's houses that used to occupy the now reclaimed area of Manila Bay. It was a site that Betsy had full view of from her apartment studio.

Back then, afternoons for her would include boat rides along these waters. She would take in the sunset view, close her eyes, and paint the picture in her head. She would later reproduce the image on canvas. She did not like the idea of painting from the boat on the spot because "that would just be difficult."

But her mission at Port Area on that particular day was different. She wanted to paint a cluster of houses in a place called Isla Puting Bato on the spot. With Sylvia beside her, Betsy went about her way.

She was close to finishing her painting when a group of young men—residents of the area—went up to her and asked what she was doing.

One of the men said threateningly: "Hey, foreigner, what are you doing? Why are you painting the bad aspects of our lives? To show to everyone the kind of life we live? We'll tell the [Philippine] President what you are doing. Go now. Leave."

The young men then started to shake their van, as Betsy and Sylvia packed up and left.

"We did not want to tell them that the next day I was going to inform the President (Ferdinand Marcos, who was sitting for the artist at the time) about the whole thing and that we are not foreigners," Betsy said.

"My daughter and I are Filipino citizens and love this country. Those houses I was painting, they were works of art, popular art at its best. And that is the way I feel about it until now."

When Betsy took the unfinished painting to Spain, it was exhibited and received wide acclaim. (It is now in the possession of a dear friend in Madrid.)

The series of barong-barong paintings is still one of the most remembered works of Betsy, and even the great Spanish art critic Carlos Areán

THE RETURN C2



"ORQUIDEAS"

Portraitist to Manila society's high and mighty remains humble, unassuming, and devoted to the Philippines



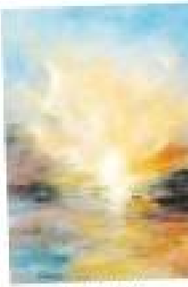








The return of Betsy . . .



Still painting



Love of her life

They came to break bread with Betsy

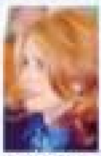
Who'd ever think Imelda and Bea (Zobel) would be in the same room again, though at different tables?





CONCHITINA Sevilla Bernardo, Betsy and Marybeth de Leon





STELLA Marquez Araneta









Visual Arts

Tu at Cubicle

"Blooming," artworks by Kudin Tu, is on view at The Cubicle Art Gallery, [illegible]

Smith at Crucible

[illegible] Joel Smith [illegible] her exhibit [illegible], March [illegible], at The Crucible Gallery, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong. [illegible]



"RAINDROPS" Series 8, by Kudin Tu

Lecture on Arturo Luz at Ayala Museum

Ayala Museum invites the public to learn more about National Artist Arturo Luz and his works [illegible] March 18 at the Museum Lobby (Makati Avenue cor. De la Rosa St., Greenbelt Park, Makati City). Call 7577117-21 local 35 or visit www.ayalamuseum.org.

Group exhibit at Tala Gallery

[illegible] featuring works by [illegible], Derrick Macutay, [illegible] and [illegible], runs March 13-April 3 at Tala Gallery, 100 Sct. De Guia St., Quezon City.

Borja at Blanc Makati

Renato Borja's exhibit [illegible] is on view at Blanc Makati, Crown Tower, 107 H.V. de la Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati. Call 7520003, or 0920-[illegible]; e-mail info@blanc.ph or visit www.blanc.ph.



BY RENATO Borja

UST holds national criticism workshop

THE UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS is now accepting applications to the 1st J. Elizalde Navarro Workshop in Criticism on the Arts and Humanities to be held April 20-25 in Baguio City.

The workshop is endorsed and organized by the Varsitarian, the 81-year-old official student organ of UST. It is held in honor of the late National Artist for the Visual Arts and art critic J. Elizalde Navarro, who was an editor and [illegible] of the Varsitarian during his student days, and in connection with the 400th anniversary of UST in 2011.

Fellowships will be given to 10 promising young critics who would like to enhance their analytical, research and writing skills.

To be considered for the fellowship, applicants should submit a scholarly, properly documented critical essay (7-12 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font) on any of the art forms (literature, painting, sculpture, architecture, dance, drama, music, etc.) on or before March 31.

Manuscripts should be submitted in hard copy and on CD, preferably in MS Word, together with a resume, a recommendation letter from an academic mentor or a literary/art critic, a certification that the works are original, and two 2x2 ID pictures.

Address all applications to Ferdinand M. Lopez and Ralph Semino Galán, Faculty of Arts and Letters, University of Santo Tomas, España, Sampaloc, Manila. E-mail [illegible]@yahoo.com.

School museum showcases Iligan artists

Capitol University aims to provide a home and opportunity for the budding artists of Northern Mindanao

THE GALERIE RAWAHI OF the Museum of Three Cultures in Capitol University aims to provide a home and opportunity for the budding artists of Northern Mindanao.

[illegible]



Visual Arts

Diaz in Galleria Duemila

[illegible]



Rodin at BlueLine

[illegible]

Eustaquio in 20Square

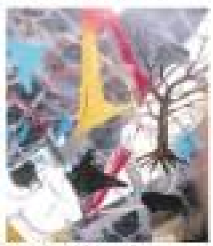
[illegible]

Various artists at Paseo

[illegible]

Group show at Tin-aw

[illegible]



Banday at Pablo

[illegible]

De la Cruz at Ortigas Foundation Library

[illegible]





Art that's sensitive to social realities

By Karen Lapitan
Inquirer Southern Luzon

THERE IS NO PLACE FOR artistic euphemisms when social unrest is undoubtedly in evidence.

This is the belief of artist Emmanuel Garibay, 48, whose works constantly reflect social plights and realities.

A social realist, Garibay specifically criticizes the colonial brand of religion while sticking to his principle of showing others the problems that need to be solved.

ART D3



EMMANUEL Garibay with his work "Reunion"



'The religion that we know today is colonial in nature; it tends to prescribe how we should live our lives'

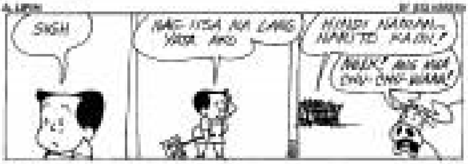






GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS





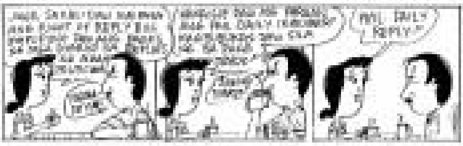
PUGAD BABOY



DICK TRACY



LOVESHOTS



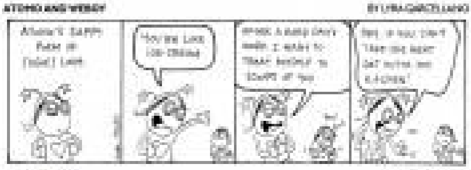
JAMES BOND



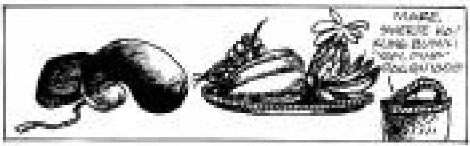


BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT





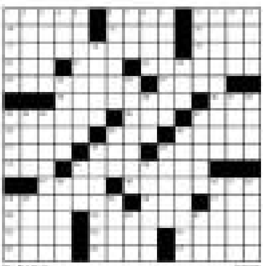
TULDOK



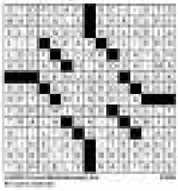




DAILY CROSSWORD



Saturday's Puzzle Solved



HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCIS DRAKE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

8								1
7		6	1		4	2		9
	9			2			3	
	1			7			6	
		7	3	8	1	9		
	4			9			2	
	7			5			1	
2		3	6		9	7		4
5								3

Difficulty Level ★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.

Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

Art that's sensitive to social realities

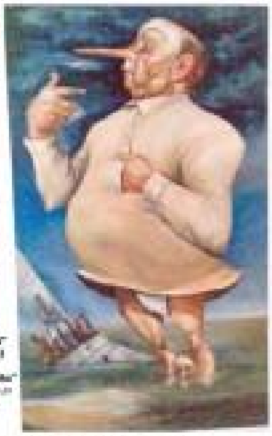
From page D1



"Si JACOB at ang Diyos"



"PIETA" (above) and "Republika"



'Reunion'

Plebeian subjects



THIRD PRIZE: "Light of the World, You Stepped Down into Darkness," by Joseph C. Macapagal

Sacred art contest winners known



JURORS' CHOICE 1: "Our Father" by Geronio Juliano M. Pluma



JURORS' CHOICE 2: "El Santo Cena," by Gil Kindly L. Perez and Lance Kirby T. Yerona

Salapunen's 'Viray Festival' at Hobbies Art Gallery





Singapore gallery shows Filipino artist's works



"ON THE TABLE"

Palanca Awards now accepting entries



Excitement, nostalgia at CCP's 40th-anniversary gala

By Pablo A. Tariman
Contributor

THE CURTAINS ROSE AT the CCP 40th-anniversary gala to reveal a stunning set design by Tanya [illegible] and light design by Paulo Paulino and [illegible] SJ Casey.

With images of the CCP 1969 inauguration being flashed on screen, the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Chino Toledo, played Kasilag's Divertimento and the CCP Chime (yes, that's the same sound you hear at the CCP lobby when a concert is about to start).

The Kasilag orchestral work for piano featured three pianists, Jonas Reyes Lozada, Najib Ismail and [illegible], after which the overture segued to Josefino Toledo's "Pagsy" and ended with Antonino Buenaventura's "Mindanao Sketches."

The 40th anniversary overture captured the CCP's grand beginnings, after which the singers entered to sing excerpts from various zarzuelas and musicals ("[illegible] sa Dilim," "Rama Hari," "Walang Hiyado," "[illegible]," "Dalagang Bukid" and "[illegible] ng Oli[illegible]").

Mezzo soprano Clarissa Ocampo virtually transformed Vincent de Jesus's "Walang Hiyado" (from the musical of the same title) into an aria with her exciting intonation and flawless phrasing. The Philippine Madrigal Singers and Novo Concertante Manila provided exciting choral support.

Soprano Camille Lopez Molina and baritone Andrew Fernando were vocal standouts in rendering De Leon's "Mutya Pilipino," Santiago's "Tibok ng Pilipinas" and Ignacio's "[illegible] ng Sibingan."

Soprano Aileen Espinosa Cura and tenor Randy Udtongo did a touching Filipino version (by Rolando Tinio? It didn't say so in the program) of Puccini's "O Soave Fanciulla" (from "La Boheme").

Grandest aria

But the grandest aria of them all was sung by soprano Rachelle Gerodias, who did a gripping interpretation of De Leon's "[illegible]" (from "Noli Me Tangere"). This is actually De Leon's answer to Donizetti's Mad Scene from "Lucia di Lammermoor," and Gerodias made the most of it.

With competent acting and singing, Gerodias brought to life the ecstatic and heartbreaking moments of Sisa. The audience greeted her with roaring bravos and thunderous applause.

One felt a tinge of nostalgia as the gala went through excerpts from the best offering of various dance groups, from Ballet Philippines to Philippine Ballet Theater and Ballet Manila.

Those excerpts were the best from the

CONTINUED ON PAGE E2



RACHELLE Gerodias



CCP BOARD chair Emily Abrera (center, in beige colored gown), together with other performing artists in a ceremonial toast to celebrate CCP's 40th anniversary

Excitement, nostalgia at CCP's 40th . . .

Four stars for CCP

A year-long celebration marks its 40th anniversary

Empowerment

Ballet Philippines presents 'Neo-Filipino'





ALICE Reyes' "Amada"

Artist finds love in music

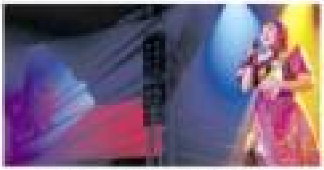




How his life changed

Atlantis Productions' 'Spelling Bee' opens March 20











BPI Family Savings Bank Salutes its Champion Brokers in Metro Manila

















Summer workshops with New Voice, Gantimpala

NEW VOICE COMPANY, ONE OF THE country's most progressive theater companies and founded by artistic director Monique Wilson, announces its 2009 Summer Theater Workshop.

The course being offered this year is Acting for Teens and Adults.

This course is aimed at students (11 years old and above) who wish to explore the exciting world of Acting and Theater. The students will have classes in acting and improvisation using the Stanislavski-Uta Hagen-devised approach.

This includes sense memory, physical and psychological actions, animal work, relationship exercises, and learning how to build a character.

Work will also include theater games by Viola Spolin, which encourages trust, being part of a team, confidence building, concentration, and developing creativity and imagination.

No previous experience is necessary but all students are expected to participate fully in the course.

The final showcase will be open to the paying public. Students will be offered the opportunity to explore a wide range of characters and roles for the showcase.

NVC offers an inspirational, passionate and creative learning environment for those who are serious about pursuing a career in theater, television or film, as well as for those who want to explore the arts for personality development, communication building and creativity.

Workshop classes run March 30-May 31. Classes for teens will be Monday and Wednesday, 4:30-7:30 p.m., while classes for adults will be Tuesday and Friday, 7-9:30 p.m.

All classes will be held at the New Voice Company Annex Studio, 8008 Tangalle St., San Antonio Village, Makati City.

The final showcase will be held at the RCBC Theater, Ayala Avenue, Makati, on May 31.

Main workshop teacher and director is NVC associate artistic director Ana Aelis, who will be handling the adult classes. Theater actress and NVC member actor Missy Mercerius will handle the teen class.

Wilson, a teaching fellow and course head of the Arts Acting for international students at EAST 15, one of UK's top acting schools, will be supervising and co-teaching the first few weeks of classes.

For enrollment details, call 8960505, 8365437, 8098030. Visit www.newvoicecompany.com or e-mail nvc@pldtdsl.net.


MYCARTISTIC director Monique Wilson

Musical-theater workshop

Gantimpala Theater Foundation invites teens and young adults to join its annual musical-theater workshop, open to ages 13 and up.

Performers Reuben Laurente and Cindy Torres will guide and teach them an integrated class of movement, singing and acting. The month-long class will have different modules to help prepare participants for a musical-theater production performance.

They will also do an original musical production as their culminating piece.

The workshop runs April 13-May 21, MWF classes, 1-5 p.m., inside the Rehearsal Hall, Open Air Auditorium Building, in Luneta, Manila. Registration and enrollment opens March 16 (Monday).

Gantimpala Theater is a 32-year dramatic arts company that produces the Four Classics ("Florante at Laura," "Ibong Adarna," and "El Fili (translation)"), and plays made by National Artists for Literature and The arts, children's musicals, world-famous classics and touring productions.

For more information, call 5280683, 5383668, 0921-5290388 or e-mail gantimpalatheater@yahoo.com.ph. Visit gantimpalatheater.multiply.com.



New book on UP centennial

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES Press has released "1908—The Way It Really Was" by Rosal Rafael Ingles, Subtitled "Historical Journal for the UP Centennial 1908-2008," the volume is a day-to-day account of events and issues which unfolded within that year of UP's founding.

Ingles, UP professor emeritus, conceived the book as tribute to the university he has served faithfully. It comprises 366 days into less than 400 pages.

It offers a fascinating record of the year 1908. Ingles lists the events which shaped the year, from the insignificant and amusing to the momentous. The chronicle opens with an account of the New Year's eve "midnight revelry" from The Manila Times and closes with the 12th anniversary of the death of José Rizal.

The book is introduced by UP president Emerlinda Roman, who calls the book "fascinating—from the salary of the girls working in a cigar factory (75 centavos a day), to the fine charged a certain R.M. Bachrach for exceeding the speed limit of 8 miles within the city (28 miles), to the list of soft drinks available (Root Beer, Ginger Ale, Sarsaparilla, etc.)."

National Artist for Literature Bienvenido Lumbera observes in his preface that the book is "both history and journalism." He notes that 1908, indeed, was a seminal year for the country wherein young Filipino men and women came back from America with their colonial education. Of course, it was also the year UP was founded.

"1908—The Way It Really Was" is available in hardbound format. Book design is by Zeny Elinzo, cover design is by Mac Niñez-Papa. It is available at all UP Press Bookstores and at the UP Press Display Room at UP Diliman.

For orders and inquiries, contact 9253243 or e-mail press@up.edu.ph.

UST launches heritage videos

THE UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS Educational Technology Center will launch instructional materials in video and interactive formats related to Philippine cultural heritage on March 12, 11 a.m., at the UST Main Bldg.

To be launched is "The Philippines: Pearl of the Orient," a specialized multimedia reference CD that provides comprehensive general information about geography, regional linguistics, ethnicity, public holidays and other sociocultural aspects of the Philippines and its regions.

In a highly multimedia format, the instructional material can be used for users' assignments and reports that would require general information, illustrations, audio/video clips, maps, related articles and links to other reference titles.

Also to be launched is "Pamagpatang," a video which documents some of the centuries-old Lenten ritual practices of San Pedro, Cutud, Pampanga. In visually compelling shots, it shows how the community prepares for the Holy Week, one of the most important events in the Catholic Church calendar.

The documentary film culminates in the reenactment of the Crucifixion by men to fulfill their personal vows in exchange for a blessing asked, or simply a means to renew one's faith.

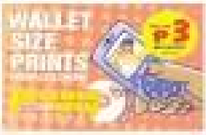
Another video to be released is "Ang Buhay Pinanasapalataya ng Pamilyang Aeta Kadiwa," a video documentation that exposes the life struggles and coping strategies against poverty of an indigent sector in society known as the Pundaling Nenal/Kadiwa Christian group.

The film highlights their place in the teaching of the Social Doctrines of the Church, specifically on the topics: the dignity of the human person; the value of life; the role of the family; the role of the Church in the empowerment of the poor.

The launch is open to the public. Call 406-1611 local 8309.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor: Emmie G. Velarde





Maxene wants to make her papa proud



"I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU proud, Papa," said actress Maxene Magalona at the wake of her dad, Pinoy rap icon Francis Magalona, who died Friday afternoon of leukemia.



West, Clarkson guest on AI



Maxene wants her papa proud

From page F1

for being a good provider to our kids. It was supposed to help him deal with the pain he was suffering from," said Pia, mother to Ivan (33), Mario (22), Francis Jr. (21), Isaiah (20), Elmo (18), Aldo (15) and Clara (9).

Passionate

"Francis was a very passionate person," Pia said. "When he was angry, he was very expressive. He would get angry with his cancer. That was his way of coping with it. But he didn't give up. I remember that he told me, 'I'm going down fighting.'"

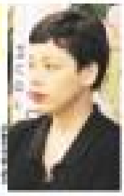
Francis' third daughter Maxene, a mainstay of the youth show "Lipgloss," said she was with her dad the night before he died. "He couldn't really talk anymore. I just hope he was proud of me," Maxene added.

Joey de Leon, one of the three hosts on the country's longest-running noontime TV show "Eat ... Bulaga!" where Francis was also a mainstay, described him as "a playful little boy." The comedian added: "We shared the same interests like painting and writing songs. He was always fun to be with."

Singer-songwriter Ogie Alcasid, who had worked with Francis in a few films and collaborated on several songs for Ogie's second album, "Oh, My," said: "Francis was determined to accomplish a lot of things when he was still alive. He had

MAXENE/F4







SINGER Jun Pangan of the Bawal Daw (left)...

Maxene wants to make her papa proud

From page F1

... Michael V's wedding, I remember he said we would keep making music together ...

"I went there to comfort his family and Bing (Michael V's nickname), ... They shared a lot of things in common ... and still love playing video games."

... were on their way to Enchanted Kingdom in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, when they received a call from a friend about Francis. "We canceled the trip, which should have been an anniversary celebration of (Bitoy) V's wedding," ... explained. "Francis treated us like his own children ..."

PAGE/MORE F5

Screenwriting workshop

Syd Field, dubbed by CNN as "the guru of all screenwriters," is holding his Screenwriting Master Class at the AIM Conference Center Makati on March 14 and 15. ...

West . . .

From page F1

sing her chart-topper "My Life Would Suck Without You," off her new album ...



AMOOF Desai ...

Top 13, not 12

...

First nine

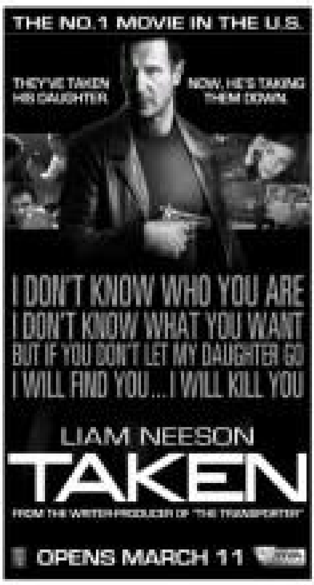
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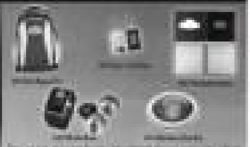




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7 JONAS BROTHERS
8 Indieflix: PADYAK
9 BOOKING
10 HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU / PUSH

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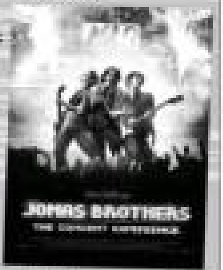
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3 WATCHMEN
4 YOU CHANGED MY LIFE

IMUS
1 VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA
2 WATCHMEN
3 YOU CHANGED MY LIFE
4 HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU

ANGELES
1 WATCHMEN
2 YOU CHANGED MY LIFE
3 MY BLOODY VALENTINE
4 GRAN TORINO

STARMILLS
1 INKHEART
2 YOU CHANGED MY LIFE
3 VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA
4 MY BLOODY VALENTINE
5 GRAN TORINO
6 WATCHMEN

BACOLOD
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2 CONFESSIONS of a SHOPAHOLIC
3 MARLEY AND ME
4 THE ABANDONED
5 BOOKING
6 PUSH

ILOILO
1 CONFESSIONS of a SHOPAHOLIC
2 VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA
3 YOU CHANGED MY LIFE
4 UNDERWORLD 3
5 PUSH
6 VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA

NOW SHOWING

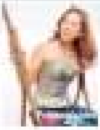
watch them at MOVIEWORLD





PASALOVA siblings from L: Arkin, Clara, Francis Jr. and Maxene

Maxene wants to ...



Tessa peeks into kid's room

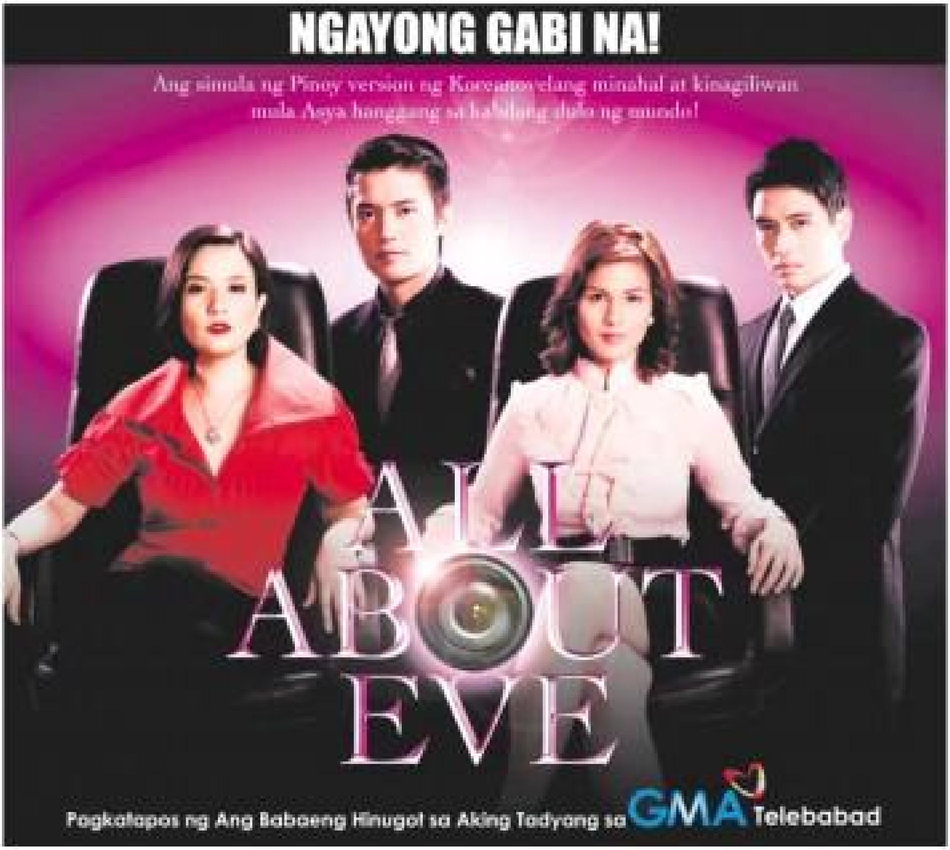


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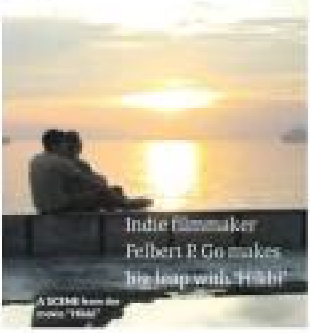
NOW SHOWING







From accountant to actor-director





US Congress goes gaga over Brad

Editor: Chelo Banal-Formoso
LEARNING
E-mail: learning@inquirer.com.ph

High school seniors: Write an essay and win a scholarship to Lyceum of the Philippines University. Contest rules and coupon on p. G2.



Slumdog millionaire she's not, but a winner just the same

By Crystal Rebosa
Contributor



IT'S A 'KALABASA' trophy that the author shows off with pride.

FIFTH GRADE WAS pretty challenging for me. In fact, it was the only level in grade school that I did not finish at the top of my class. Good thing I managed to bounce back in sixth grade and graduated valedictorian.

[illegible]

Taping

[illegible]

Afterthought

[illegible]



SMART fifth graders on the show with host Janno Gibbs.

STI wins web awards

[illegible]



PWU GRADUATE 9TH IN NURSING TEST [illegible]

Conference on Spanish colonial Philippines

[illegible]



ARELLANO GRADUATES IN TOP 10 [illegible]

Scholarships for medicine at DLSU

[illegible]

San Sebastian not raising tuition fees

[illegible]

UB nursing graduate is 6th in board exam

[illegible]

Miriam presents 'Ang Huling Kagubatan'

[illegible]

No tuition fee hike at San Juan de Letran

[illegible]

San Beda president in Indonesia conference

[illegible]



FR. MATEO de Jesus

EUREKA! Queena N. Lee-Chua



Word from the wise: Students tip off teachers

(First of two parts)

Preparation

Relate to real life

Passion



WELL DONE.



STARTING 'EM YOUNG

Oil company scholars graduate

IIE Lesson Plan Contest

November winner does not always go by the textbook



Lyceum partners with Thai hotel



Award for woman law student leader



LECTURE ON SMOKING





Purposeful tourists

GRADUATING tourism and hotel and restaurant management (HRM) students of La Consolacion College Manila personally experience a DOT familiarization tour of Bohol. At top left photo, they are with Holger Horn, president and chief executive officer of Philippine Fun Divers Bohol.

Text and photos by Stephen Norries A. Padilla

THEY SAY EXPERIENCE is the best teacher. What better way to teach students than to expose them to as many experiences as possible?

[illegible]



Tourism students broaden their knowledge on a trip to beautiful Bohol

Eco conservation

[illegible]



Learning from experts

[illegible]


BOHOL Apprenticeship Day for LCCM students


CARABAO ride at Sikatuna Park...


LOBOC River cruise ...


DOLPHIN watching off Pamilacan Island

Learning can be fun

[illegible]